

General Assembly

Committee Bill No. 198

January Session, 2007

LCO No. **5898***05898SB00198HS_*

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by: (HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF INTERPRETER SERVICES UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 17b-28e of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):
- 3 (a) Not later than September 30, 2002, the Commissioner of Social
- 4 Services shall submit an amendment to the Medicaid state plan to
- 5 implement the provisions of public act 02-1 of the May 9 special
- 6 session* concerning optional services under the Medicaid program.
- 7 Said state plan amendment shall supersede any regulations of
- 8 Connecticut state agencies concerning such optional services.
- 9 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid
- 10 state plan to include foreign language interpreter services provided to
- 11 any beneficiary with limited English proficiency as a covered service
- 12 <u>under the Medicaid program.</u>

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2007	17b-28e

Statement of Purpose:

To improve efficiencies in the Medicaid program by allowing interpreter services to be a covered service thereby promoting access to health care for persons with limited English proficiency and reducing incidents of misdiagnosis.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HARP, 10th Dist.; SEN. PRAGUE, 19th Dist.

REP. GIANNAROS, 21st Dist.; REP. PAWELKIEWICZ, 49th Dist.

REP. AYALA, 128th Dist.; SEN. GOMES, 23rd Dist.

REP. REINOSO, 130th Dist.

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